

**Calendar No. 497**108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION**S. CON. RES. 99**

Condemning the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for its participation and complicity in the attacks against innocent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

APRIL 8, 2004

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. GRAHAM of Florida) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

MAY 4, 2004

Reported by Mr. LUGAR, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble

[Strike out all after the resolving clause and the preamble and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

Condemning the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for its participation and complicity in the attacks against innocent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan.

~~Whereas, since early 2003, a conflict between forces of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan, including militia forces backed by the Government, and rebel forces in~~

the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan has resulted in attacks by ground and air forces of the Government of Sudan against innocent civilians and undefended villages in the region;

Whereas the militia forces backed by the Government of Sudan have also engaged in the use of rape as a weapon of war, the abduction of children, the destruction of food and water sources, and the deliberate and systematic manipulation and denial of humanitarian assistance for the people of the Darfur region;

Whereas United Nations officials and nongovernmental organizations have indicated that the humanitarian situation in the Darfur region is extremely urgent, particularly in light of restrictions by the Government of Sudan on the delivery of humanitarian assistance for the people of the region;

Whereas, on December 18, 2003, United Nations Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Egeland declared that the Darfur region was probably “the world’s worst humanitarian catastrophe”;

Whereas, on February 17, 2004, Amnesty International reported that it “continues to receive details of horrifying attacks against civilians in villages by government warplanes, soldiers, and pro-government militia”;

Whereas, on February 18, 2004, United Nations Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs in Sudan Tom Eric Vraalsen declared, following a trip to the Darfur region, that “aid workers are unable to reach the vast majority [of the displaced]”;

Whereas Doctors Without Borders, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning medical humanitarian relief organization and one

of the few aid groups on the ground in the Darfur region, reported that the region is the scene of “catastrophic mortality rates”; and

Whereas nearly 3,000,000 people affected by the conflict in the Darfur region have remained beyond the reach of aid agencies trying to provide essential humanitarian assistance, and United Nations aid agencies estimate that they have been able to reach only 15 percent of people in need and that more than 700,000 people have been displaced within Sudan in the past year. Now, therefore, be it

*Whereas, since early 2003, a conflict between forces of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan, including militia forces backed by the Government, and rebel forces in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan has resulted in attacks by ground and air forces of the Government of Sudan against innocent civilians and undefended villages in the region;*

*Whereas the militia forces backed by the Government of Sudan have also engaged in the use of rape as a weapon of war, the abduction of children, the destruction of food and water sources, and the deliberate and systematic manipulation and denial of humanitarian assistance for the people of the Darfur region;*

*Whereas, on December 18, 2003, United Nations Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Egeland declared that the Darfur region was probably “the world’s worst humanitarian catastrophe”, and in April 2004 reported to the United Nations Security Council that in Darfur, “a sequence of deliberate actions has been observed that seem aimed at achieving a specific objective: the forcible and long-term displacement of the targeted communities which may also be termed ‘ethnic cleansing’”;*

*Whereas, on February 17, 2004, Amnesty International reported that it “continues to receive details of horrifying attacks against civilians in villages by government warplanes, soldiers, and pro-government militia”;*

*Whereas, on February 18, 2004, United Nations Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs in Sudan Tom Eric Vraalsen declared, following a trip to the Darfur region, that “aid workers are unable to reach the vast majority [of the displaced]”;*

*Whereas Doctors Without Borders, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning medical humanitarian relief organization and one of the few aid groups on the ground in the Darfur region, reported that the region is the scene of “catastrophic mortality rates”;*

*Whereas, on April 20, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights delayed the release of a report citing gross human rights abuses, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed in Darfur in a bid to gain access to Sudan for investigators;*

*Whereas the Government of Sudan continues to deny humanitarian assistance for the people of the Darfur region by denying them unrestricted access to humanitarian aid organizations;*

*Whereas attacks on civilians in Darfur continue despite an April 8, 2004, temporary cease-fire agreement; and*

*Whereas nearly 3,000,000 people affected by the conflict in the Darfur region have remained beyond the reach of aid agencies trying to provide essential humanitarian assistance, and United Nations aid agencies estimate that they have been able to reach only 15 percent of people in need*

*and that more than 700,000 people have been displaced within Sudan in the past year: Now, therefore, be it*

1       *Resolved, That Congress—*

2               (1) strongly condemns the Government of the  
3       Republic of the Sudan for its attacks against inno-  
4       cent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of  
5       western Sudan and for its failure to take effective  
6       actions to stop militia attacks on civilians in the re-  
7       gion; and demands that the Government of Sudan  
8       immediately take actions to cease these attacks;

9               (2) calls on the international community to  
10       strongly condemn the Government of Sudan for its  
11       participation and complicity in these attacks and de-  
12       mand that such attacks cease;

13              (3) urges the Government of Sudan to allow the  
14       delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in the  
15       Darfur region; and

16              (4) urges the President to direct the United  
17       States Representative to the United Nations to seek  
18       an official investigation by the United Nations to de-  
19       termine if crimes against humanity have been com-  
20       mitted by the Government of Sudan in the Darfur  
21       region.

22   *That Congress—*

23              (1) *strongly condemns the Government of the Re-*  
24       *public of the Sudan and militia groups supported by*

1        *the Government of Sudan for attacks against innocent*  
2        *civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of west-*  
3        *ern Sudan, in violation of Article 3 of the Geneva*  
4        *Conventions, done at Geneva August 12, 1949, and*  
5        *entered into force October 21, 1950, which specifically*  
6        *prohibit attacks on civilians, and demands that the*  
7        *Government of Sudan immediately take actions to*  
8        *cease these attacks;*

9            *(2) calls on the Government of Sudan to grant*  
10        *full, unconditional, and immediate access to Darfur*  
11        *to humanitarian aid organizations, the human rights*  
12        *investigation and humanitarian teams of the United*  
13        *Nations, and an international monitoring team in*  
14        *compliance with the temporary cease-fire agreement*  
15        *that is based in Darfur and has the support of the*  
16        *United States and the European Union;*

17            *(3) encourages the Administrator of the United*  
18        *States Agency for International Development to work*  
19        *with donors to develop a plan to pre-position and de-*  
20        *liver humanitarian assistance to Darfur, including a*  
21        *plan for delivery of food by air if necessary;*

22            *(4) calls on the Secretary of State to develop a*  
23        *plan for further bilateral and multilateral action in*  
24        *the event the Government of Sudan fails to imme-*  
25        *diately undertake the actions called for in paragraph*

1       (2), including a plan to seek a Security Council reso-  
2       lution addressing the Darfur situation;

3           (5) deplores the inaction of some member states  
4       of the United Nations and the failure of the United  
5       Nations Human Rights Commission to take strong  
6       action with respect to the crisis in Darfur; and

7           (6) urges the President to direct the United  
8       States Representative to the United Nations to—

9           (A) seek an official investigation by the  
10       United Nations to determine if crimes against  
11       humanity have been committed by the Govern-  
12       ment of Sudan in the Darfur region; and

13          (B) work with the international community  
14       to ensure that the individuals responsible for  
15       crimes against humanity in Darfur are account-  
16       able for their actions.

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